

pedal responsive to the deceleration of the towed vehicle and wherein the weight has sufficient mass to apply a braking force to the brake pedal during deceleration of the towed vehicle;

c. sliding means between the base and the weight wherein the sliding means enforce said line of travel between said forward position and said rearward position.

9. [Currently Amended] An inertial brake actuator for a towed vehicle having a floor and a vacuum-based power assisted braking system actuated by a brake pedal comprising:

a. a base comprising a top side and a bottom side, wherein said base is suitable for mounting in the vehicle;

b. a weight comprising a means for contacting the brake pedal, a top and a bottom, slidably mounted to the base along a line of travel between a forward position and a rearward position, wherein the means for contacting the brake pedal are configured to actuate the brake pedal responsive to the deceleration of the towed vehicle and wherein the weight has sufficient mass to apply a braking force to the brake pedal during deceleration of the towed vehicle;

c. sliding means between the base and the weight wherein the sliding means enforce said line of travel between said forward position and said rearward position;

d. an auxiliary vacuum source connectable to the towed vehicle braking system to augment the actuation of the towed vehicle braking system.

Claims 2-8 and 10-20 are as submitted originally.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

A complete listing of the claims pursuant to 37CFR §1.121 is provided in the Appendix.

Dated this 18<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2005  
Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Charles R. Szmanda', written over a horizontal line.

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